

# ons oppose pipe factory project

G: Council t appeals, mill

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s newest and ufacturing falanned will be, iral Pipe offin agreement osta Building 'rades Coun-

s protesting ussion's ap requare lost hich would bring as many as 165 new jobs and generate hundreds of thousands of dollars in annual tax revenue for the city — company officials have een most concerned by the peal filed on behalf of local and regional trade unions. The other two were brought by attorneys representing Albert D. Seeno Construction Co and Mt. Diablo Recycling.

Pittsburg's City Council tonight will be asked to deny the appeals and grant has approval for the mill, to be built on an approximately 45-acressite on East Third Street, next to the USS-POSCO Industrie, steel plant.

The United Spiral Pipe factory is a joint venture among U.S. Ste. Corp., South Korean steel-mak. POSCO and South Korean

tube products maker SeAH Steel Corp. At full capacity, the mill's workers annually would manufacture about 300,000 tons of spiral welded pipe, which would be sent elsewhere by rail to serve the oil and natural gas industres.

In meeting the city officials and before the nning Commission lest money, company officials stressed that they have to meet a "tight timeline" to open the factory by December 2008, allowing it to core the effectively with five other popen elsewhere the United States and Canada The appeals already have delayed the company's plans to start building the plant ties month.

Pittsburg officials have made the project a top priority, putting

it on what they call the "fast-approval track." During all meetings they have had with company officials — whether here or in Korea — they have made clear the importance of reaching an agreement with the unions.

iled 12/13/2007

During two meetings with Pittsburg Mayor Ben Johnson, United Spiral Pipe President M.S. Lee "wanted me to push the unions to back off," Johnson recalled Friday.

"Johnson said Lee also asserted that he, as the mayor, had the power to do that, a suggestion Johnson said he immediately

disputed.

<sup>a</sup>I told him, all I can do is call somebody" with the union and ask that they be flexible, Johnson said, noting he did that when local union groups appealed a recent expansion at Dow Chemical Co. But it will be up to factory officials, he said, "to figure out exactly how they want to pursue it, as far as the unions go."

Johnson put the same question to the union, noting, "If you fight tooth and nail and lose, they (the company) go away. If they go away, what do you have in your pocket? Zero dollars."

Greg Feere, CEO of the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council, did not return calls placed to his office and cell phone Friday.

United Spiral Pipe officials have declined to talk candidly about the project with the Times

See FACTORY, Page 4



Grace for Thanksgiving

# Man died in jail of natural causes

■ **DUBLIN:** Investigation finds that secondary cause of death was altercation with another inmate at Santa Rita Jail

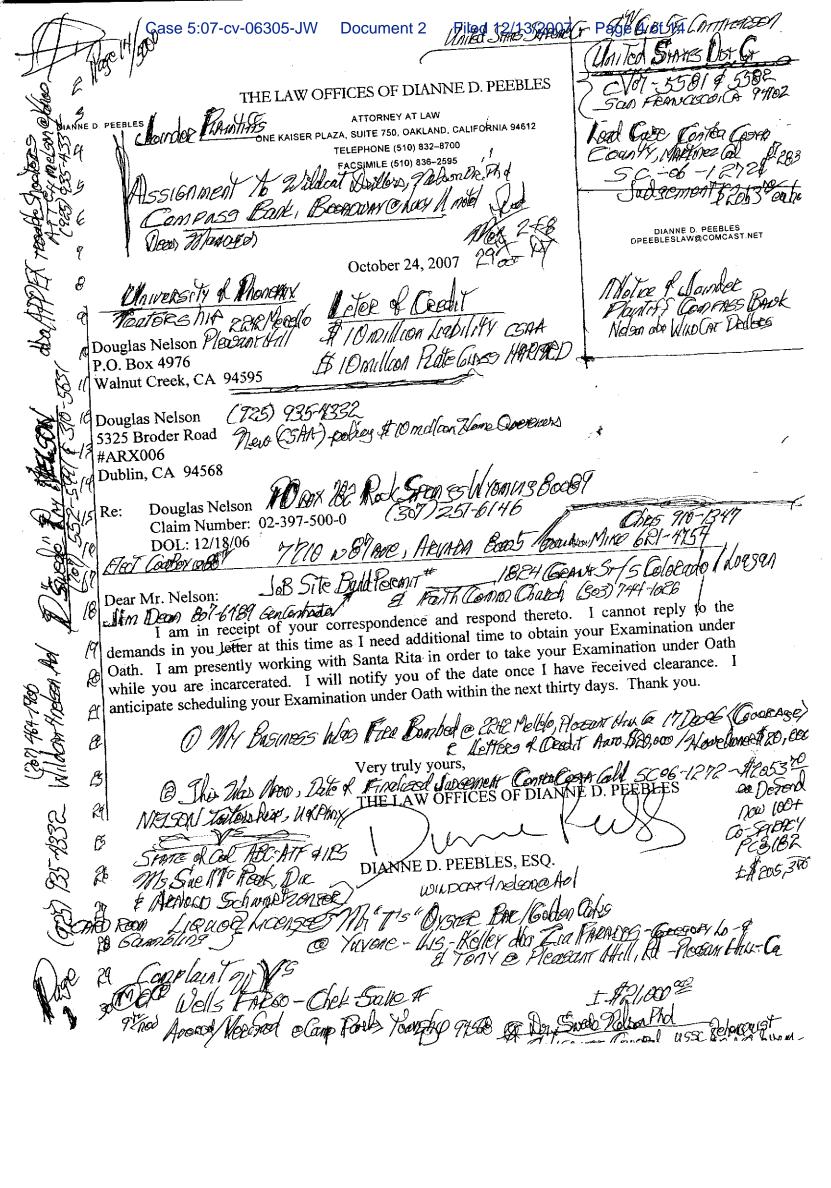
By Roman Gokhman STAFF WRITER

Although the manner of death of a Santa Rita Jail inmate who died in custody in August was determined to be natural, it was caused as a direct result of a fight with another inmate directly preceding his death, authorities said.

"He had some serious heart problems," Santa Rita Jail Commander Bert Wilkinson said.

Abdule Graham, 31, of San Leandro died Aug. 21 after he was found unresponsive in a shower at the jail. He was rushed to ValleyCare Medical Center in Pleasanton, where he was soon

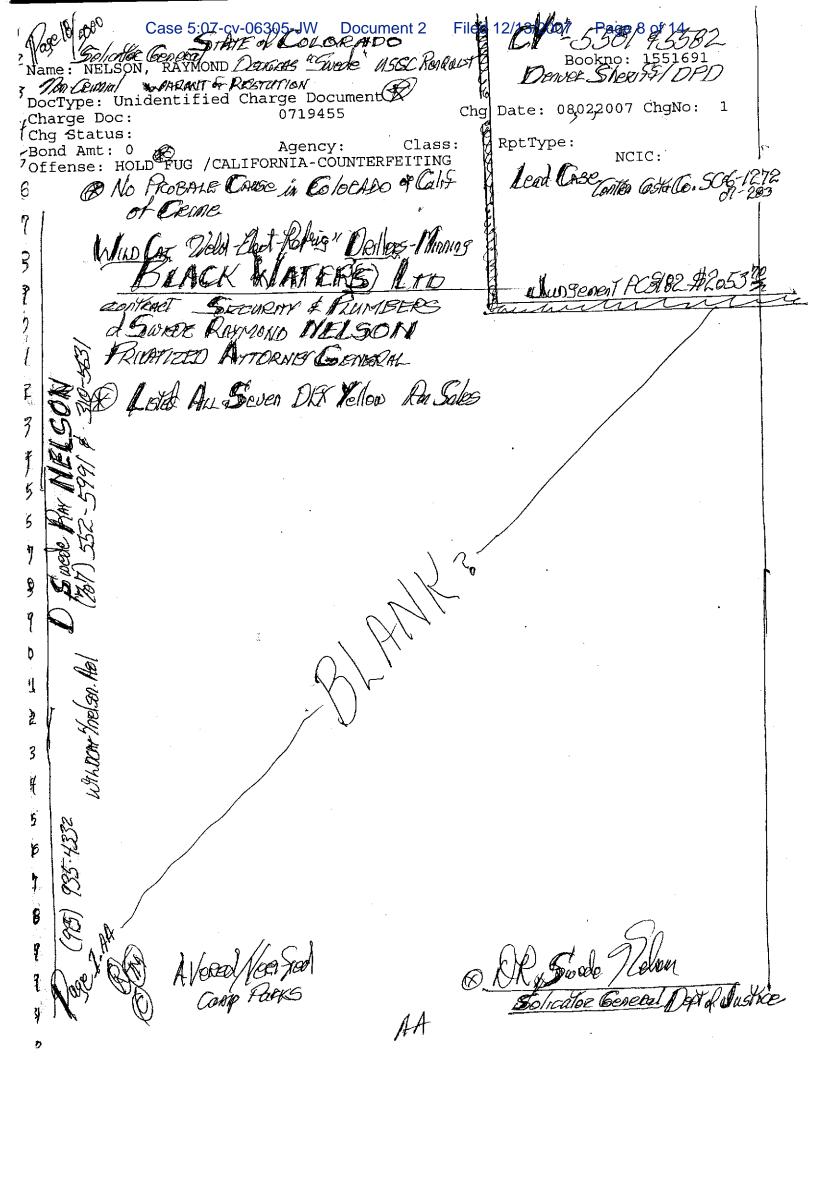
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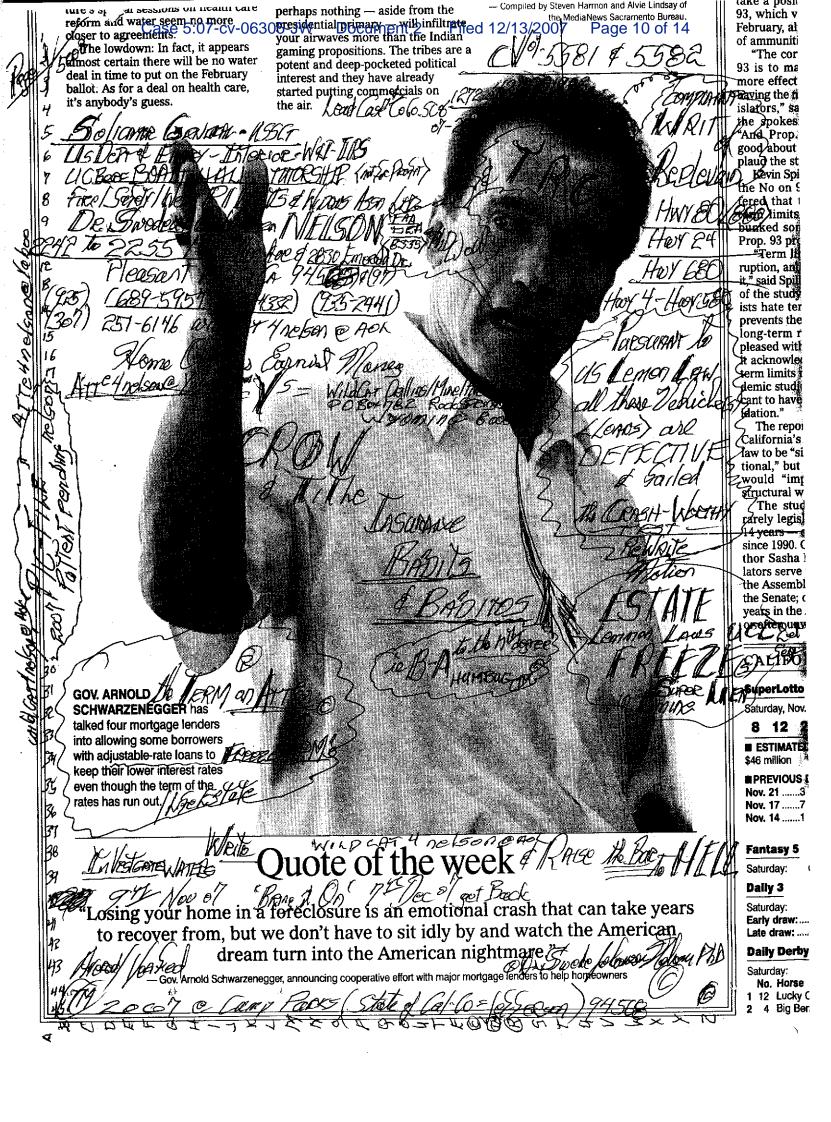
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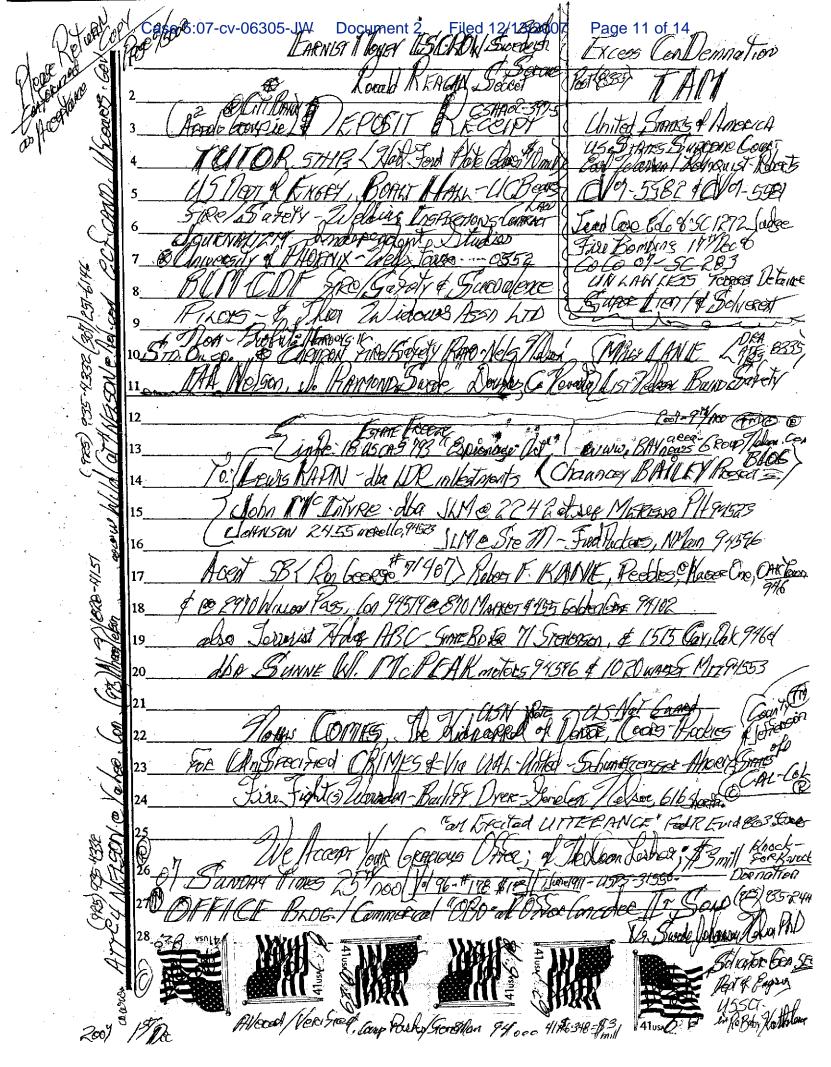
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TIME TO SETTLE: Now the Hollywood writers strike is getting serious. It's preventing a Johnny Depp movie from being made. Depp was due to start

ceration And I mean that "—

And then, ("Oh look,

-C'Amy Winehouse, after getting en there's a nest in the rose 007 booed during a concert.

Today's People Column was
compiled by Lynn Carey from
staff, Associated Press, Eon
line.com, MSN.com, Yahoo.com
and Times wire services re-
ports. Comments? Call 925-943-
8112 or e-mail lcarey@bayarea
newsgroup.com.
<u> </u>

925-943-8235

i daring a concert.	And then "My God Ed
y's People Column was piled by Lynn Carey from Associated Press, Eon from, MSN.com, Yahoo.com Times wire services re-	And then, ("My God, Ed, there are eggs in that nest!").  I suspect you can guess what will happen next.  The mortality rate for "backyard ducklings" is close
C	nnow?

close to 99 percent.

/ OII IOUE, HOW THEE

bushes!").

city streets.

Besides not having a decent pond to dabble in for plants and other tasty things (very few calories in chlorine), the disoriented ducklings will have to run a deadly gantlet of cats, dogs, kids, fast cars and

If your pair of mallards do stick around long enough to build a nest, please destroy it before they can lay eggs. If they have laid eggs, remove them before they have a chance to hatch.

Hopefully, this will force them to fly back to the country club pond or another safer, more natural spot to raise their family.

Otherwise, let your patience be your guide in loanjust about perfect. Hang onto a value wigglefit in front of Mabel's nose so it looks alive, and then take off running around the living room. She'll get the message.

If I were you, I'd also pick up a big box of Band-Aids while you're at the store.

(Just kidding about running. Drop the chicken and she'll eat it.)

### A FINAL NOTE

Hug the cat, brush the dog, cut up some carrots for the parrot, change the water in the fish tank and get a new exercise wheel for the ham-

Oh, yeah, and a Wall Street Journal subscription for the

Find more Gary in his blog at http://blogs.contracostatimes.c om/garybogue; write Gary, P.O. Box 8099, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-8099; old columns at ContraCostaTimes.com, click on Columns; e-mail garybug@infionline.net.

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MEDIANEWS

The day after Thanksgiving is the traditional start of the holiday shopping season, and ContraCostaTimes.com has everything you need to handle it. With videos from the scene of local malls, polls on holiday movies and television specials, posts from our Shop Talk blog and reader-submitted photos from the fray, we'll keep you in the know. Throw in traffic and weather reports, and we're practically indispensable. Stop on by today!

# Artin the Bay Area

Staff writers Laura Leevy, Jennifer
Modelessi and Robert Taylor have taken up
the call for an arts blog and have begun posting at Seen (www.ibabuzz.com/seen). Here's the start of Taylor's debut post "Books, marked":

The office is getting a makeover — walls are falling, computers are coming, desks are moving. Writer's desks are notorious for collections of the detritus we call "research material," from outdated phone books to promotional hats from the circus.

The editor e-mailed this warning: "Everyone, no exceptions, has to pick up, throw away, file, throw away, take home, throw away the papers, notes, press releases and reports underneath, around and atop our desks.

Old museum exhibit catalogues and books such as "Eroticism in Art" have been swept away, stuffed into boxes and the trunk of the Mazda.

But here are five books (including two linked to recent exhibits) that must tay [...]"

### Multimedia

Watch as a serviceman surprises his daughters with a Thanksgiving visit home, a 9-year-old Chinese girl returns to the hospital that saved her life and Walnut Creek police's bomb squad investigates a scare in Knightsen. Check out penguins' behavior during a feeding at Steinhart Aquarium, Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama's San Francisco visit and prep football playoff prospects with Two Geeks and a Pigskin. See how two chefs combine three hours and \$150 without going stircrazy to make a Thanksgiving dinner, follow the Golden State Warriors' holiday food drive and examine the courtroom artistry of Joanne Lynch.



ase 5:07-cv-06305-JW UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

Office of the Clerk

Filed 12/13/2007

Document 2

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Cathy A. Catterson Clerk of Court

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# Written Communications, Circuit Rule 25-2

All communications to the court, including papers to be filed, shall comply with FRAP 32 and shall be addressed to the Clerk at the United States Court of Appeals, Post Office Box 193939, San Francisco, California 94119-3939.

DOUGLAS NELSON #ARXOO6

ALAMEDA COUNTY JAIL

5325 BRODER BLVD DUBLIN CA 94568-3309 Filed 12/13/2007 Page 14 of 14

\*SCH 3-DIGIT 945 /6/2008

ContraCostaTimes.com

Volume 96, Number 178

plus tax



Mervyns must show it can make its rebound endure IN BUSINESS/G1

Monta's 31 points power Warriors to victory • IN SPORTS/B1



# LUSIONS repeat visit

s with clusters of empty homes



S line Catanzaro Way in Antioch. Agents ioch have fallen 30 percent from their highs.

etch now. look. Loralues in solid 30 percent from their highs. Now, 1,200 homes in the city are listed for sale.

Banks own a third of them.

## ContraCostaTimes.com

■ To view a map of foreclosures neighborhood-by-neighborhood, go to: http://www.contracosta times.com/search/ci\_7342417

### INSIDE

■ Where homeowners facing foreclosure can go for help. Page 27

Last month, fewer than 40 sold. One home on Catanzaro that sold at more than its \$445,000 asking price in late 2005 sat for 10 months this year at \$322,900, said listing agent Jim Mann. Nobody bit. It sold at auction last week for an as-yet undisclosed amount.

See FOREGONE, Page 12

# Fires make in Malibu

■ Second set of blazes in as many months destroys nearly 50 more homes; firefighters get quick upper hand

By Jerry Berrios, John Miller and Brent Hopkins LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

MALIBU — Still reeling a month after wind-whipped wildfires racked the exclusive community of Malibu, the Pfeiffer family awoke at 4 a.m. Saturday to once again face the stifling smell of smoke.

An hour later, sheriff's deputies were at the Pfeiffers' Corral Canyon home telling them to evacuate. The family grabbed what they could - a computer hard drive, passports, financial records, a change of clothes, family pho-

- and fled.

"This will be the fifth time we have been evacuated," Jon Pfeiffer, a 20-year Malibu resident, said as he stood along Pacific Coast Highway later Saturday waiting for news of his home. "The second time in a month."

The Pfeiffers are among thousands in the tony enclave who grappled with firestorms that by late Saturday had scorched at

# By the numbers

### Malibu

- # 4,650 acres scorched
- 51 structures lost 49 homes, two outbuildings; 27 structures damaged
- The weather: Santa Ana winds that: had gusted up to 60 mph had died down slightly late Saturday but aren't ' expected to be completely gone until